

work, and it will be ready for presentation as I have before informed you, by a date *not later* than the 15th of Feb. next, and as much earlier as may be found possible.

For the present, I will declare to you my belief (founded upon the progress of that estimate) that by dispensing with some unnecessary or rather not indispensable works, heretofore included, and with the reduction in the estimated prices which the present favorable time for letting work, justifies me in making, I shall be able—safely and without underrating the probable cost of the unfinished work—to reduce materially the anticipated expense of the unfinished 50 miles of canal, as estimated in 1839; or in any event not to increase it.

I am Gentlemen, very truly, and respectfully,

Your obedient servant.

ELLWOOD MORRIS,

Chief Engineer.